THTR 358: Dramatic (& Performance) Theory

Instructor: D. Ohlandt
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TTh 1pm - 2:20pm
location: Buchanan 210
office hours: T 2:30-4pm
W 1:30-3pm

Schedule of Readings & Assignments

Why Drama? Why Theory? Why Performance?

– Th 1/17  FIELD TRIP - Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo @ Harris Theater 7:30pm

T 1/22 overview - what is “performance”?
discussion of the Trocks
TTT - Introduction "The Politics of Theatre Theory"
articles on the Trocks

option A paper #1 due (on any topic raised in the introduction to Theatre/Theory/Theatre - "The Politics of Theatre Theory")

Th 1/24 PSR - introduction by Henry Bial
PSR - VII.28 de Marinis
PSR - VII.29 Barba

The Rise of Modernity

T 1/29 Carlson 1 - Aristotle & the Greeks
TTT - Aristotle
Carlson 6 - the French Renaissance
TTT - Corneille

Th 1/31 Carlson 16 - France in the late 19th century
TTT - Zola

T 2/5 TTT - Maeterlinck
The Intruder by Maeterlinck
TTT - Strindberg

option A paper #2 due (on any topic raised in "The Rise of Modernity")

1900 through the Wars

Th 2/7 NO CLASS - but, prepare yourself for tonight’s field trip by doing the readings before we go

Fragments review from the Chicago Tribune (handed out in class)
Fragments review from the Chicago Sun-Times (posted on Moodle)


“Talking with Peter Brook.” TDR, Vol. 30, No. 1. (Spring, 1986), pp. 54-71 (posted on Moodle)

– Th 2/7 FIELD TRIP - Fragments by Samuel Beckett directed by Peter Brook @ CST 7:30pm

T 2/12 discussion of Fragments and revisit readings from last Thursday

Th 2/14 Ubu Roi by Alfred Jarry

option B thesis & outline #1 due

– Th 2/14 FIELD TRIP - Fat Boy @ A Red Orchid Theatre 7:30pm

T 2/19 discussion of Fat Boy and Ubu Roi

TTT - Craig

TTT - Meyerhold

option A paper #3 due (choose topic 1 OR 2)

topic 1) critically respond to some aspect of Fragments with respect to the dramatic theory of Beckett or the performance theory of Brook

topic 2) critically respond to some aspect of FatBoy with respect to the source material of Ubu Roi

Th 2/21 Carlson 17 - 1900-1914
Carlson 18 - 1914-1930

Sun 2/24 FIELD TRIP - Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind @ Neofuturists 7:00pm

T 2/26 The Good Woman of Szechwan by Bertolt Brecht

Th 2/28 continue discussion of The Good Woman of Szechwan

TTT - Brecht

PSR - VI.22 Brecht

option B paper #1 due
– Sun 3/2 FIELD TRIP - *A Fairy Tale Life* @ Apollo Theatre 1:00pm

**T 3/4** Carlson 19 - 1930-1950
TTT - Artaud
in-class performance demonstration of Brechtian technique due!!

**option A paper #4 due (on ONE or maybe TWO examples of
defamiliarization" in the Brechtian sense present in either *Too Much Light*
OR in *A Fairy Tale Life* - not both!)**

**From Drama to Practice**

– Th 3/6 FIELD TRIP - *Urban Bush Women* @ Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago 8pm

**T 3/11** NO CLASS - Spring break

**Th 3/13** NO CLASS - Spring break

**T 3/18** discussion of *A Fairy Tale Life*

**Th 3/20** discussion of *Urban Bush Women*
Carlson 20 - 1950-1965

**option A paper #5 due (on some aspect of *Urban Bush Women*)**

**T 3/25** PSR - VI.23 Grotowski
PSR - VI.24 Strasberg
Carlson 21 - 1965-1980
Carlson 22 - since 1980

**Th 3/27** review of our "toolbox" thus far

**Performance Theories**


**option A paper #6 due (on any topic raised in "From Drama to Practice")**

**Th 4/3** Richard Schechner “Drama, Script, Theatre, & Performance.” TDR 17, #3 (1973)
PSR - III.10 Turner
PSR - III.11 Bell
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| T 4/8 | NO CLASS - Student Symposium  
      | option B thesis & outline #2 due                                         |
| Th 4/10 | PSR - IV.14 Huizinga  
         | PSR - IV.15 Bateson  
         | PSR - IV.16 Sutton-Smith  
         | PSR - IV.17 Kaprow         |
| T 4/15 | PSR - V.18 Austin  
         | PSR - V.19 Butler  
         | PSR - V.20 Parker & Sedgewick |

**Performance Studies: Anthropology & Intercultural Performance**

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| Th 4/17 | PSR - I.1 Schechner  
         | PSR - I.4 Jackson  
         | PSR - VIII.33 Lane  
         | option A paper #7 due (on any topic raised in "Performance Theories")  |
| T 4/22 | PSR - I.5 Kirshenblatt-Gimblett  
         | PSR - VIII.34 Conquergood  
         | option B paper #2 due  |
| Th 4/24 | TTT - Soyinka  
         | TTT - Boal  
         | PSR - VIII.31 Bhabha  
         | PSR - VIII.32 Gomez-Peña |

**So, what is performance?**

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| T 4/29 | PSR - II.6 Goffman  
         | review of all definitions/theories of “performance”  
         | handout final exam  
         | option A paper #8 due (on any topic raised in "Performance Studies: Anthropology & Intercultural Performance")  |

T 5/6 Final Exam due @ 4:30pm